1.   (Previously Presented) A transmission system, comprising:

a data management module capable of managing data flow;

a first transmitter module coupled to a transport medium and to the data management module, the transmitter module to contain configuration information specifying at least one predefined transmission characteristic; and

at least an additional transmitter module,

the data management module to access the configuration information to determine the at least one predefined transmission characteristic and to modify data flow management based on the at least one predefined transmission characteristic,

wherein each transmitter module is associated with a different transport medium.

2.-3.   (Cancelled)

4.   (Previously Presented) The transmission system of claim 1, wherein the transmission characteristic of the first transmitter module varies over time.

5.   (Previously Presented) The transmission system of claim 1, further comprising an interface between the data management module and the first transmitter module.

6.   (Original) The transmission system of claim 5, wherein the interface includes an API interface.

7.   (Previously Presented) The transmission system of claim 1, wherein the transmission characteristic includes a data flow rate of the first transmitter module.

8.   (Previously Presented) The transmission system of claim 7, wherein the data flow rate is adjusted to compensate for delays in the first transmitter module.

9.   (Previously Presented) The transmission system of claim 1, the data management module to continue to receive the said at least one transmission characteristic and to adjust the data flow management if said at least one transmission characteristic changes.

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10.   (Previously Presented) The transmission system of claim 1, the data management module to combine digital data with television data to transmit over the transport medium.

11.   (Original) The transmission system of claim 1, wherein the transport medium includes a medium selected from the group consisting of an airwave transmission, a cable transmission, a satellite transmission, a digital television transmission, and a computer network.

12.   (Previously Presented) The transmission system of claim 1, wherein the configuration information is retrieved by the data management module at startup of the first transmitter module or data management module.

13.   (Previously Presented) The transmission system of claim 12, the data management module and first transmitter module to continue to exchange configuration information after startup.

14.   (Previously Presented) A transmission system comprising:
a data management program capable of assembling data;
a first transmitter capable of receiving data from the data management program and transmitting the data to a transport medium;
a communication interface between the data management program and the transmitter that enables the data management program and transmitter to negotiate the type of communication to be performed; and
at least another transmitter coupled to at least another transport medium; and
the first transmitter to contain configuration information specifying a characteristic of the transmitter,
the data management program to access the configuration information of the first transmitter and to modify management of data flow based on the configuration information.

15.   (Original) The transmission system of claim 14, wherein the assembled data includes digital data and television data.

16.   (Cancelled)

17.   (Previously Presented) The transmission system of claim 14, wherein the transport media have different transmission characteristics.

18.   (Cancelled)

19.   (Previously Presented) The transmission system of claim 14, the data management program and first transmitter to exchange information on a continuous basis.

20.   (Previously Presented) The transmission system of claim 17, wherein the transport media have different data flow rates.

21.   (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium storing a program executable by a computer in a transmission system including a first transmitter coupled to a transport medium, the program comprising instructions for causing the computer to:

retrieve stored information to identify at least one transmission characteristic of the first transmitter;

modify data flow management based on the identified at least one transmission characteristic; and

identify a transmission characteristic of at least another transport medium over which data is to be transmitted by at least another transmitter.

22.   (Cancelled)

23.   (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 21, wherein the transport media have different transmission characteristics.

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24.   (Cancelled).

25.   (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 21, wherein the transmission system further includes a data management module, the program further comprising instructions causing the computer to cause the data management module and the first transmitter to exchange information relating to the transport medium's said at least one transmission characteristic.

26.   (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 25, wherein the data management module and the first transmitter exchange information on a continuous basis.

27.   (Previously Presented) A method of managing data flow over a transport medium in an interactive transmission system, comprising:

accessing stored configuration information;

identifying, based on the accessed configuration information, at least one transmission characteristic of a first transmitter used to transmit data over the transport medium;

modifying data flow management based on the identified at least one transmission characteristic; and

identifying a transmission characteristic of at least another transmitter used to transmit data over a different transport medium.

28.   (Cancelled)

29.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 27, wherein the first transmitter is associated with the different transport media have different transmission characteristics.

30.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 27, wherein the at least one transmission characteristic of the first transmitter is identified on a continuous basis.

31.   (Previously Presented) The transmission system of claim 1, the configuration information to specify one or more of the following:

maximum transfer rate, maximum size of each data packet, and usage of compression.

32.   (Previously Presented) The transmission system of claim 1, wherein the configuration information comprises at least one of information to indicate if the first transmitter module is able to assign priorities to data, and information to indicate if the transmitter module is able to perform bandwidth management.

33.   (Previously Presented) The transmission system of claim 14, the configuration information to specify one or more of the following:

maximum transfer rate, maximum size of each data packet, and usage of compression.

34.   (Previously Presented) The transmission system of claim 14, wherein the configuration information comprises at least one of information to indicate if the first transmitter module is able to assign priorities to data, and information to indicate if the first transmitter module is able to perform bandwidth management.

35.   (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 21, wherein the information specifies one or more of the following:

maximum transfer rate, maximum size of each data packet, and usage of compression.

36.   (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 21, wherein the information comprises at least one of information to indicate if the first transmitter module is able to assign priorities to data, and information to indicate if the first transmitter module is able to perform bandwidth management.

37.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 27, the configuration information to specify one or more of the following:

maximum transfer rate, maximum size of each data packet, and usage of compression.

38.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 27, wherein the configuration information comprises at least one of information to indicate if the first transmitter module is able to assign priorities to data, and information to indicate if the first transmitter module is able to perform bandwidth management.

39.   (Previously Presented) A transmission system, comprising:

a data management module capable of managing data flow; and

a transmitter module coupled to a transport medium and to the data management module, the transmitter module to contain configuration information specifying at least one predefined transmission characteristic,

the data management module to access the configuration information to determine the at least one predefined transmission characteristic and to modify data flow management based on the at least one predefined transmission characteristic, wherein the configuration information is retrieved by the data management module at startup of the transmitter module or data management module.

40.   (Previously Presented) The transmission system of claim 39, wherein the transmission characteristic of the transmitter module varies over time.

41.   (Previously Presented) The transmission system of claim 39, further comprising an interface between the data management module and the transmitter module.

42.   (Previously Presented) The transmission system of claim 1, wherein the transmission characteristic includes a data flow rate of the transmitter module.

43.   (Previously Presented) The transmission system of claim 42, wherein the data flow rate is adjusted to compensate for delays in the transmitter module.

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44.   (Previously Presented) The transmission system of claim 39, wherein the transport medium includes a medium selected from the group consisting of an airwave transmission, a cable transmission, a satellite transmission, a digital television transmission, and a computer network.

45.   (Previously Presented) The transmission system of claim 39, the data management module and transmitter module to continue to exchange configuration information after startup.

46.   (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium storing a program executable by a computer in a transmission system including a transmitter coupled to a transport medium and a data management module, the program comprising instructions for causing the computer to:

retrieve stored information to identify at least one transmission characteristic of the transport medium;

modify data flow management based on the identified at least one transmission characteristic; and

cause the data management module and the transmitter to exchange information relating to the transport medium's said at least one transmission characteristic,

wherein the data management module and the transmitter exchange information on a continuous basis.

47.   (Cancelled)

48.   (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 46, wherein the information specifies one or more of the following:

maximum transfer rate, maximum size of each data packet, and usage of compression.

49.   (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 46, wherein the information comprises at least one of information to indicate if the transmitter module is able to assign priorities to data, and information to indicate if the transmitter module is able to perform bandwidth management.

50.   (Previously Presented) A method of managing data flow over a transport medium in an interactive transmission system, comprising:

accessing stored configuration information;

identifying, based on the accessed configuration information, at least one transmission characteristic of a transmitter used to transmit data over the transport medium; and

modifying data flow management based on the identified at least one transmission characteristic,

wherein the configuration information comprises at least one of information to indicate if the transmitter module is able to assign priorities to data, and information to indicate if the transmitter module is able to perform bandwidth management.

51.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 50, the configuration information to specify one or more of the following:

maximum transfer rate, maximum size of each data packet, and usage of compression.

52.   (Cancelled)